



William Gammell headstones and historical marker in Washington Cemetery, 2911 Washington Ave., Houston, Texas 77077

An Application for an Official Texas Historical Marker for
William Gammell, Texas Revolutionary War Veteran (1812 – 1869)

Written by Lloyd Shenberger
and presented to the Harris County Historical Commission

CONTEXT

Anglo settlement of the Mexican State of Texas began in 1821 when Stephen F. Austin was granted permission to establish a colony and bring settlers from the United States. Others quickly followed and Texas began looking more like a colony of the United States than a state of Mexico. When Santa Anna became President of Mexico, he was determined to re-establish the military control over Texas. Most Texian settlers opposed Santa Anna's plan and wanted more control as a separate state in Mexico. When the Mexican Army crossed the Rio Grande with the intention of establishing military posts that had been previously abandoned, hostilities soon erupted. Unrest between Mexico and the Texians began when Mexico outlawed immigration from the United States in 1830. The first hostility occurred in Gonzales in October of 1835. Independence was won at San Jacinto on 21 April 1836, but conflict continued. William Gammell, one of the Americans who responded to calls to come to Texas, arrived just in time for the Revolution.

OVERVIEW

William Gammell was born on 18 October 1812 in Ayrshire, Scotland.¹ He immigrated with his parents to the United States and the family settled in Lowell, Massachusetts.²

William arrived in Texas between 1 March 1836 and 5 April 1836.³ He was enlisted in the Texian Army by Major L. Smith on 5 April 1836 for a period of three months, presumably at Groce's Retreat on the Brazos River.⁴ He was a member of a small company organized by Captain Alfred Henderson Wyly on 6 April 1836. The company was assigned to Col. Sidney Sherman's Second Regiment, Texas Volunteers.⁵ General Houston and the Texian Army crossed the Brazos on April 12th and 13th. They proceeded to Donaho's where they camped on the 15th, at Robert's on the 16th, at Mrs. McCurley's on Spring Creek on the 17th and at Harrisburg on the 18th. The Army arrived at Lynchburg, opposite the mouth of the San Jacinto River on the 20th.⁶ During the Battle of San Jacinto on 21 April 1836, Gammell served in Capt.

Alfred Henderson Wyly's Company.⁷ Gammell, along with others in Wyly's company, was omitted from the official San Jacinto rolls printed in 1836. However, both Adjutant General John A. Wharton and Captain Wyly certified that he participated in the battle.⁸

William's occupation was a gunsmith.⁹ It is not known when he learned this trade, but probably before he came to Texas. On 2 August 1836, at Marion, Texas, he took possession of sixty-eight (68) U.S. muskets, bayonets, and supplies (see Appendix).¹⁰ He received these supplies from Nathaniel Townsend by authority of Alexander Somervell, Secretary of War. Additional supplies were received at Marion on 28 August 1836 to be used "in repairing the arms at this place."¹¹ Gammell received \$58.00 for services as armorer on 4 September 1836 at Velasco, Texas, from George W. Par, Acting Paymaster.¹²

Gammell enlisted in the Mounted Gun Men for a period of six months, under Captain John Bowyer. He served from 4 July 1837 until 13 September 1837, when he was honorably discharged at Houston by surgeon's certificate for disability.¹³ For this service, he was paid \$57.50 on 24 April 1838 by Francis R. Lubbock, Comptroller.¹⁴ The Mounted Gun Men was a volunteer organization that preceded the Texas Rangers.¹⁵ It was established by the Republic of Texas on 12 June 1837 by an act providing for the protection of the northern frontier from Indians. Each member of the Mounted Gun Men was required "to furnish a substantial horse, well shod all around, extra horseshoe nails, a good gun, two hundred rounds of ammunition, and other provisions and equipment except beef."¹⁶

William Gammell acquired land for his service to the Republic. Having arrived in the Republic subsequent to the Declaration of Independence and having served in the military, he applied for a head right for one-third league of land (1476 acres) on 3 May 1838. His land was located in Austin County between Mill Creek and San Bernardo River twelve (12) miles above San Felipe. The land was surveyed on 1 May 1839 and the patent was issued 10 October 1845.¹⁷ He sold this land to George Glaum on 5 April 1860.¹⁸ On 5 February 1839, he received a Bounty Warrant for 640 acres from the Secretary of War for service from 1 March to 4 September 1836. The land was patented to John A. Roberts on 17 October 1846.¹⁹ On 4 February 1848, Gammell received a Donation Certificate for 640 acres for being in the Battle of San Jacinto. This land was patented in Erath County by R. B. Kimball on 31 July 1851.²⁰ On 2 January 1883, his widow, Jane, received a Bexar donation grant of 1,280 acres in Hutchinson County. She immediately sold her grant to Gunter and Munson for \$500.²¹

William married Jane McDaniel on 19 June 1839 at the Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas, by Reverend William Allen.²² Jane was born 28 March 1825,²³ a native of New York who came to Texas as a child about 1833.²⁴ Her mother, Mary McDaniel, was living in Gammell's household on the 1850 census.²⁵ William and Jane had no children.²⁶

Gammell was again called upon to serve the Republic on two occasions. He served as a private for a term of six weeks as a mounted volunteer in the Bastrop Company, under Captain James Gillespie. This company was in the Vasquez expedition to San Antonio in the Spring of 1842 under the command of General Edward Burleson to defend San Antonio from the invasion of the Mexican Army.²⁷ On 5 March 1842, the Mexican Army under the command of General Rafael Vasquez occupied San Antonio with approximately 700 men. The Texans were outnumbered and surrendered San Antonio on March 7. General Vasquez returned to Mexico with his troops.²⁸ On 11 September 1842, the Mexicans again invaded Texas under the command of General Adrian Woll and occupied San Antonio with 1200 troops.²⁹ Gammell was recruited by Captain Jesse Billingsley to defend Texas against the invasion.³⁰ On September 18 the Texian troops engaged the Mexican army in the Battle of Salado Creek six miles northeast of San Antonio. The Texians defended their homeland and General Woll withdrew his troops back to San Antonio and retreated to Mexico by September 20.³¹ These invasions led to the plans for a punitive expedition against Mexico, the Somervell expedition and the Mier expedition.

During 1849, William Gammell went to California. A news item appeared in the *Democratic Telegraph and Texas Register* on 16 October 1850 announcing that "William Gammell, one of our fellow citizens, who emigrated to California last year, returned a few days since."³² By the beginning of 1849, word of the Gold Rush had spread around the world and thousands of Americans and foreigners flocked to California to strike it rich. Possibly, Gammell went to California to find gold or he may have gone to make money selling guns.

William and Jane settled in Chapmanville, located on the north side of Buffalo Bayou, probably on 390 acres of land acquired on 27 May 1854, bounded by Liberty Road on the south and T. & N. O. railroad on the north.. This is probably the same property he was living on at the time of his death. William acquired several pieces of property in Harris County. He could be considered by some as a real estate speculator. Between 1839 and his death, William purchased at least 26 city lots, 20 acres along Washington Avenue, an additional 10 lots and 5 acres located next to his homestead, in addition to his 390 acre homestead on Liberty Road.³³ By the time of

his death, he had sold all property except for his business location on Congress Street and the majority of land comprising his homestead.³⁴

The first tax roll that William Gammell appears on is 1838 in Harris County. He also appears on the 1839 and 1846 tax rolls in the same county.³⁵ The couple appears on the 1850 census of Harris County in Houston. His real estate was valued at \$2,000.³⁶ On the 1860 census, they are listed as living in Precinct 5, Lynchburg, Harris County, Texas. His real estate was valued at \$7,000 and he had a personal estate value of \$10,000.³⁷

Gammell became a businessman in Houston when he opened his gunsmith shop.³⁸ On 11 December 1850, he purchased property on Congress Street east of Travis Street from Isaac Brashear for \$800.00.³⁹ He operated his gunsmith shop at this location until he leased the property to E & S Heyum, Merchants, on the first of October 1866.⁴⁰ At this time, William probably retired from business life. His obituary states that “he retired from business several years ago, after acquiring an easy competency and went to reside near the city where he passed the remainder of his life, amusing himself in cultivating and beautifying his estate.”⁴¹

William Gammell became a highly respected citizen of Houston. He was a successful businessman. He joined the Masons in 1848 and remained active until his death.⁴² He was chosen as a pall bearer when General Albert Sidney Johnston’s body traveled through Houston on its way from New Orleans to the State Cemetery in Austin on 21 January 1867.⁴³ The following quotation is taken from the announcement of his death and burial in the *Houston Daily Times*. “The high esteem in which he was held by our citizens was attested by his funeral yesterday, which was attended by the largest procession ever seen in this city on a similar occasion.”⁴⁴

His headstone that was erected in Washington Cemetery says that he was a veteran of the Mexican War in 1836 and the Civil War in 1860. The Mexican War in 1836 refers to his participation in the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836. Regarding the Civil War in 1860, no evidence has been found that documents military service during the Civil War.⁴⁵ His participation in the Civil War, if any, was probably limited to the Home Guard or the production and repair of firearms.

William Gammell died 10 April 1869 at the age of 57.⁴⁶ The cause of death was pneumonia.⁴⁷ He was buried at the Masonic Cemetery in Houston, Texas.⁴⁸ The Masonic cemetery was probably the property owned by the Holland Lodge that is now Sam Houston Park

in Houston.⁴⁹ On 22 January 1900, his body was moved to Washington Cemetery (formerly known as *Deutsche Gesellschaft*, or German Society Cemetery), Houston, Texas.⁵⁰ William has three headstones. Two are in Washington Cemetery. The first, and smaller one, contains his name, birth date, birth place, date of death, and the Masonic emblem. It was found under the cemetery caretaker's house when it was demolished in 1991. This may have been the original headstone from the Masonic cemetery or it may have been the marker that was first placed in Washington Cemetery. The second and larger monument contains the names of both William and Jane. The information for William on the second headstone is the same as the first with the addition of his military service in the Mexican War and the Civil War. This one was probably erected by a niece or nephew or a family acquaintance, which lessens the reliability of the military service claim for the Civil War. However, his selection as a pallbearer for General Albert Sidney Johnston suggests some kind of service to the Confederacy.

The third headstone is located in Founders' Memorial Park in Houston and it was erected in 1936 by the Texas Centennial Commission. It states that William was buried in Founders', however, this has been proven to be incorrect.⁵¹

Jane McDaniel Gammell died 12 November 1908, at her residence at 3003 Odin Avenue, Houston, Texas, as the age of 83.⁵² She is buried beside her husband in Washington Cemetery.⁵³

SIGNIFICANCE

William Gammell contributed – by settlement, militarily, and occupationally – to the development of two nations. He lived under four of the six flags of Texas, and was a veteran of the Texas Revolution, rebuilt weapons for the Army, protected the frontier from Indians, and defended Texas against Mexican invasions.

Born in Ayrshire, Scotland, on 18 October 1812, he immigrated with his parents to the United States. The family settled in Lowell, Massachusetts. The call of adventure brought him to Texas, arriving between the first of March 1836 and 5 April 1836. He was enlisted in the Texian Army by Major L. Smith on 5 April 1836, probably at Groce's Retreat on the Brazos River. He served in the company of Captain Alfred Henderson Wyly, Second Regiment, Texas Volunteers, Col. Sidney Sherman commanding. The army moved eastward from Groce's to Donoho's place, then to Robert's place, Mrs. McCurley's place on Spring Creek, Harrisburg, and

onto the plains at San Jacinto opposite the mouth of the San Jacinto River. He fought in the Battle of San Jacinto on 21 April 1836.

He served the Republic as a member of the Army and also as a gunsmith, rebuilding arms with supplies received for the Republic on 2 August 1836 and 28 August 1836. On 4 July 1837, he enlisted in the Mounted Gun Men and defended the northern frontier from hostile Indians.

Gammell married Jane McDaniel, a native of New York, on 19 June 1839 at the Presbyterian Church in Houston. They did not have any children.

Gammell was again called upon to defend his new homeland on two occasions. He joined Captain James Gillespie's Company in the Spring of 1842 to defend San Antonio against the invasion of General Rafael Vasquez. On 11 September 1842, the Mexicans again invaded the Republic under the command of General Adrian Woll. Gammell was recruited by Captain Jesse Billingsley, and on September 18th the Texian troops engaged the Mexican army in the Battle of Salado Creek and forced the Mexicans back to San Antonio and subsequent retreat to Mexico.

After returning from a lengthy trip to California during the gold rush, he and Jane settled on 390 acres of land on the north side of Buffalo Bayou along Liberty Road in the present day Fifth Ward. He joined the Masons in 1848. About 1851, he opened a gunsmith shop on Congress Avenue in Houston, and operated his business until his retirement in 1866. He also invested in real estate in the City of Houston and surrounding Harris County.

Gammell died unexpectedly from pneumonia on 10 April 1869. He was buried in the Masonic Cemetery in Houston, and later re-interred in Washington Cemetery (formerly known as *Deutsche Gesellschaft*, or German Society Cemetery) in Houston on 22 January 1900. His wife, Jane, died 12 November 1908 and is buried next to him.

DOCUMENTATION

¹ Headstone of William Gammell and Jane Gammell, Washington Cemetery, Houston, Texas, Plot A-36 South Half. Kemp, Louis Wiltz, "The Kemp Sketches," Texas Handbook On-Line, (2004, San Jacinto Museum of History)

² Kemp, "The Kemp Sketches."

³ "William Gammell Head Right Certificate," Texas Land Office, Land Grant Database, Certificate #352, Patent #461, Patent Volume 1, File 3, Austin, Texas, issued at Houston on 3 May 1838. Gammell received a 2nd Class head right grant.
<https://scandocs.glo.state.tx.us/webfiles/landgrants/pdfs/1/4/7/147845.pdf>

⁴ *Muster Rolls of the Texas Revolution*, compiled by Daughters of the Republic of Texas, (Austin, Texas, DRT, 1986) page 80.

⁵ *Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. WYLY, ALFRED HENDERSON,
<http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/WW/fwy2.html>, (accessed July 27, 2008)

⁶ Thrall, H. S., *A History of Texas From the Earliest Settlements to the Year 1885*, (New York, University Publishing Company, 1895) pages 95 to 97.

⁷ *Muster Rolls of the Texas Revolution*, page 60.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ 1850 Federal Population Census, Harris County, Texas, page 8B; National Archives Microfilm M432, Roll 911. The 1860 census and 1866 Houston City Directory also list his occupation as gunsmith.

¹⁰ "Audited Claim, Nathaniel Townsend," Texas Republic Claims, Texas State Library and Archives, Audited Claim #329, Reel 106, Image 156 and 162, Austin, Texas.
<http://tslarc.tsl.state.tx.us/repclaims/106/10600156.pdf>
<http://tslarc.tsl.state.tx.us/repclaims/106/10600162.pdf>

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² "Audited Claim, William Gammell," Texas Republic Claims, Texas State Library and Archives, Audited Claim #847, Reel 34, Images 202-206. <http://tslarc.tsl.state.tx.us/repclaims/34/03400202.pdf>. Armorer is defined in Webster's Desk Dictionary as a maker of arms or a person who services firearms.

¹³ "Audited Claim, William Gammell," Texas Republic Claims, Texas State Library and Archives, Audited Claim #7153 Reel 34, Images 207-209. <http://tslarc.tsl.state.tx.us/repclaims/34/03400207.pdf>

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, Waco, Texas, <http://www.texasranger.org/index.htm>. The term "Texas Ranger" did not appear officially in legislation until 1874. Ranger companies were called by various names: mounted volunteers, mounted gunmen, mounted rifleman, spies, scouts, and minutemen. All are recognized by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame as predecessors to the Texas Rangers. The Index to Military Rolls of the Republic of Texas 1835-1845, refers to Bowyer's group as a Regiment of Rangers, Texas Militia.

¹⁶ Webb, Walter Prescott, *The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense*, (Austin, University of Texas Press, 1989) page 30.

¹⁷ "William Gammell Head Right Certificate." A special head right was issued for military service. Soldiers who arrived in Texas between 2 March 1836 and 1 August 1836 were given the same amount of land as a first class head right, a league and a labor of land (4,605 acres) for family, and a third of a league (1,476 acres) for single men at least 17 years old.

¹⁸ Austin County Deed Book, Book K, page 416, recorded 2 March 1861 (Austin County Direct Index to Deeds, page 89, entry 246).

¹⁹ “Bounty Certificate for William Gammell,” Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Database, Austin, Texas, Certificate #8010, Patent #258, Patent Volume 3, File 25. The Houston County abstract 460 shows this patent to be canceled (Miller, Thomas Lloyd, *Bounty and Donation Land Grants of Texas, 1835-1888*, Austin, University of Texas Press). Bounty grants were issued to soldiers as compensation according to the length of their service in the Army of the Republic. The first bounty act passed in November 1835 gave 640 acres to those who served in the regular army for two years or throughout the war.

²⁰ “Milam Donation Certificate for William Gammell,” Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Database, Austin, Texas, Certificate #95, Patent #297, Patent Volume 1, File 693. Bounty land grants were issued as a reward for military service. In 1837, donation grants were issued to soldiers who had fought at the Alamo, Goliad, San Jacinto or the Siege of Bexar, or who had guarded the baggage train at Harrisburg.

²¹ “Bexar Donation Certificate for William Gammell Issued to Jane Gammell,” Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Database, Austin, Texas, Certificate #1000, File #2199. In 1879, veterans of the Texas revolution, or their widows, who were destitute were given 640 acres. In 1881, the donation was increased to 1,280 acres and the indigence requirement was dropped.

²² “Marriage License for William Gammell and Jane McDaniel,” Harris County Texas Marriage License, Houston, Texas, Book A, page 76 (handwritten), page 119 in index.

²³ “Obituary of Jane Gammell” *Houston Daily Post* (Houston, Texas), 13 November 1908, page 11. and Headstone for William and Jane Gammell.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ 1850 Federal Population Census, Houston, Harris County.

²⁶ No children were listed in the 1850 through 1900 Federal Census in the household. The 1900 census listed Jane as the mother of zero children and zero living (Harris County, Texas, 1900 Federal Census, T623, ED 94, Sheet 14A) and no children were listed in Jane’s Will (Last Will and Testament of Jane Gammell, Harris County Texas Probate Minutes, Volume 29, page 73, will dated 29 April 1908, filed 20 November 1908).

²⁷ “Unpaid Claim by William Gammell for Service in the San Antonio Expedition in the Spring of 1842,” Texas Republic Claims, Unpaid Claims, Reel 251, Image 224 to 226. Service was certified by James Gillespie, Captain of Bastrop volunteers, dated 2 June 1867. The pay list has \$31.50 for services for six weeks but Gammell never signed the pay roster. This company was raised in Bastrop County, but it contains volunteers from other counties.

²⁸ *Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. VÁSQUEZ, RÁFAEL, <http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/VV/fva22.html>, (accessed July 27, 2008)

²⁹ *Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. MEXICAN INVASIONS OF 1842, <http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/MM/qem2.html>, (accessed July 27, 2008).

³⁰ Muster Roll of Persons in the Service of Capt Billingsley’s Company on the Woll Campaign, Texas Republic Claims, Jesse Billingsley, Claim #1287, Reel #137, Images 280 to 353, Texas State Library and Archives, Austin, Texas. Gammell was awarded \$15.75 on the muster roll but he apparently did not claim his pay because there is no signature next to his name. Most members of this company were from Bastrop, so the company was probably raised in Bastrop, but included volunteers from other counties including three from Harris County.

- ³¹ *Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. MEXICAN INVASIONS OF 1842, <http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/MM/qem2.html>, (accessed July 27, 2008).
- ³² *Democratic Telegraph and Texas Register* newspaper, 16 October 1850, microfilm copy located at Clayton Library, Houston, Texas. Also available online at GenealogyBank.com.
- ³³ “Deeds to William Gammell,” various dates, Harris County Texas Deed Books, D-297, H-441, H-488, I-173, I-195, J-56, L-20, L-334, M-380, M-540, P-99, P-424, U-275, V-787, X-773, and 6-618-(corrected on 7-401). (Book-Page)
- ³⁴ “Deeds from William Gammell,” various dates, Harris County Texas Deed Books, I-288, I-399, J-249, K-62, K-326, O-295, O-515, P-365, U-58, V-255, V-784, X-85, 2-188, 2-388, 2-406, 6-147, 7-193, and 7-194. (Book-Page)
- ³⁵ *Texas Census, 1820-90* [database on-line], Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 1999. Original Data: Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the U.S. Federal Decennial Census, territorial/state censuses, and /or census substitutes. William Gammell in Harris County is the only Gammell who appears in this database. The Republic of Texas Poll Lists for 1846 was compiled by Marion Day Mullins in 1974. The forward states that the 1846 poll tax is the closest to a complete census before the first Federal census in Texas in 1850. This published list only contains one Gammell in Texas.
- ³⁶ 1850 Federal Population Census, Houston, Harris County, Texas, Roll M431_911, page 8B.
- ³⁷ 1860 Federal Population Census, Precinct 5, Harris County, Texas, Roll M653_1296, page 353B
- ³⁸ Advertisement dated 6 November 1852, published in *Texas State Gazette*, 27 August 1853 and 9 June 1855. “To Hunters – Wm. Gammell, Gun-Maker, Congress St., Houston, ...”
- ³⁹ “Deed from Isaac Brashear to William Gammell,” 11 December 1850, Harris County Texas Deed Book, Deed Book P, page 99, recorded 11 December 1850. Gammell purchased part of Lot 6 Block 20.
- ⁴⁰ “Lease Agreement, William Gammell to E & S Keyrums, Store House on Congress Street,” Harris County Texas Deeds, Book 3, page 349.
- ⁴¹ “Death of William Gammell,” *Houston Daily Times*, 12 April 1869, Houston, Texas, page 2, column 2 & 3.
- ⁴² *Index Record of Holland Lodge*, unpublished records, provided to Bernice Mistrot by Mr. Jeff Burnett, 2 February 2005, email from Bernice Mistrot to Lloyd Shenberger, 5 August 2008.
- ⁴³ “Reception of the Remains of Gen. Johnston at Houston,” taken from the *Houston Journal* and printed in *Flake’s Bulletin*, 24 January 1867, page 5.
- ⁴⁴ “Death of William Gammell,” *Houston Daily Times*, 12 April 1869, Houston, Texas, page 2, column 2 & 3.
- ⁴⁵ The following sources were searched without success; Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers, Confederate Amnesty Papers, Confederate Papers Relating to Citizens and Business 1861-1865, Index to Applications for Texas Confederate Pension, Index to Texas CSA Pension Files, and Texas Confederate Service Records 1860-1861.
- ⁴⁶ “Obituary of William Gammell,” *Houston Daily Times*; Kemp, Louis Wiltz, “The Kemp Sketches”; Burial of William Gammell, Masonic Minutes; William Gammell Headstone; and “Death of William Gammell,” *Houston Daily Record*. Also *Galveston Daily News*, Tuesday, 13 April 1869, p3 c3

⁴⁷ “Death of William Gammell,” *Houston Daily Times*, 12 April 1869, Houston, Texas, page 2, column 2 & 3.

⁴⁸ “Burial of William Gammell,” Minutes of the Holland Lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M., provided to Bernice Mistrot, 2 February 2005; “Obituary of William Gammell,” *The Houston Daily Times*, 11 April 1869, page 2, column 4. In 1936, a headstone was placed in the Founders’ Memorial Park by the Texas Centennial Commission, however, he was never buried in Founders’.

⁴⁹ Beverly, Trevia Wooster, *At Rest: A Historical Directory of Harris County, Texas Cemeteries (1822-2001)*, revised edition (Houston, Tex.: Tejas Publications & Research, 2001), page 111-112.

⁵⁰ Burial Records of Washington Cemetery, South ½ of Lot 36, Section A, Repository: Glenwood Cemetery, Houston, Texas.

⁵¹ Mistrot, Bernice, *Correction of Texas Centennial Commission Monument for San Jacinto Veteran William Gammell and his Wife, Jane McDaniel Gammell*, 2004, Washington Cemetery Historic Trust, presented to the Harris County Historical Commission on September 11, 2004.

⁵² “Obituary of Jane Gammell,” *Houston Daily Post*, 13 November 1908; Headstone of William and Jane Gammell. Kemp Sketches has an incorrect date of 11 November 1908 and a burial location of Glenwood Cemetery.

⁵³ Burial Records of Washington Cemetery, South ½ of Lot 36, Section A, Repository: Glenwood Cemetery, Houston, Texas.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A special thanks to Bernice Mistrot for sharing her research on William Gammell and mentoring this research and report.

APPENDIX

Transcription of Audited Claim of Nathaniel Townsend, Texas Republic Claim # 329, Reel 106, Image 156, Texas State Library and Archives

The Govt of Texas
Marion, Aug 2, 1836
Bot [sic] of N. Townsend

68 U.S. Muskets and Bayonets	\$408.00
1 Able Smoothing plane	2.75
1 Brace & Bitts	7.00
1 set firmer Chise1s	4.50
1 set firmer Gouges	5.00
1 pr. Smith tongs	1.00
½ doz. hand Saw files	1.50
2 Small flat files	1.00
2 Rat tail files	.50
3 mill files	
3 ½-round files	8.25
1 hand vice	1.00
1 Steel Back Saw	2.00
1 Gross 1¼ in. Screws	1.50
1 Oil Stone	1.13
1 Anvil & Vice	31.25
1 30 in. Smith's Bellows	30.00
1 hand Hammer	1.00
14½ # Cast German Steel	<u>5.44</u>
	\$512.82

Rec'd Marion 2nd August 1836 from N. Townsend the above articles by authority of A. Somervell Secy at War of the Republic of Texas

Signed: Wm Gammell

Transcription of Audited Claim of Nathaniel Townsend, Texas Republic Claim # 329, Reel 106, Image 162, Texas State Library and Archives

Mr. Wm. Gammell
Bot of N Townsend

1836		
Aug 4	1 Rim Sock	.75
	1 Painted Bucket	1.00
	1 Tin Cup	.25
25	3# Nails	<u>.56</u>
		\$ 2.56

Rec'd Marion Aug 28, 1836 from N. Townsend the above articles for the use of the Govt of Texas in repairing the arms at this place by order of the Secty at War.

Signed: Wm Gammell